

# Patoka Lake Visitor Center

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**WELCOME TO PATOKA LAKE** - Indiana's largest state operated property!

**Patoka Lake Interpretive Services** presents a variety of natural & cultural history programs and special events throughout the year. Take an up-close look at amazing animals! Join the naturalist for a hike! Experience craft demonstrations, music presentations, kids' activities, and much more! Ask one of the friendly staff for more information. Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time  
Visit our website: [www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/interpretiveservices/](http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/interpretiveservices/)

## July 2009 Activities



### Thursday, July 2nd

2p.m. **Creature Feature** ~ Fur, feathers, fins or fangs? What are the special features of today's guest? Come and take a look. Learn about Patoka's natural history. **vc**

### Friday, July 3rd

10a.m. - 3p.m. Resident Raptors **Bald Eagle C52 and Redtail Hawk** will be out in the viewing area of the Visitor Center. Come and take a close-up look! **vc**

2p.m. **Nature Flicks** ~ Cool down at the Visitor Center and enjoy a short nature program. See what is playing today! **vc**

### Saturday, July 4th Independence Day

9a.m. **Interpreter on the Move** ~ Watch for the naturalist around the campgrounds and playgrounds. There will be a special guest appearance and some surprises coming your way!

9a.m. **Hawks Up-Close** ~ Why are hawks called raptors or birds of prey? What are the special features or tools of the redtail hawk? Learn why she can not fly. **vc**

10a.m. **Quest** ~ Join in the fun for all ages! Explore Indiana's public properties, state parks and reservoirs. Earn points and enjoy fabulous premiums and prizes. **vc**

11a.m. **Garden Rock Loop Hike** ~ Bring family, friends, comfortable walking shoes and insect repellent for this half mile walk. We will take a look at the natural world around us and see what animals are out and about. **vc**

1p.m. **Life Along the Patoka River** ~ Hear stories of rural life including how people farmed and logged in this area. Take a look at an 1860's log home and experience the rich heritage and history of this southern Indiana area. **vc**

2p.m. **Animal Facts Scavenger Hunt** ~ Kids bring your family and friends to the Visitor Center and follow the clues to your next discovery. Along the way, learn about animals and their habitats. **vc**

### Sunday, July 5th

10a.m. **Bugs & Insects** ~ Take a look at true bugs and common insects of Patoka. Are butterflies insects? What are stink bugs? Learn about an Ant Lion and a creature known as an Ichneumon as we explore the fascinating world of insects. **vc**

11a.m. **Narrows Hike** ~ Bring your family, friends, comfortable walking shoes and bug spray for this short hike through time. Learn about Patoka's heritage and pre-lake history. **vc**

1-3p.m. **Beach Activities** ~ Kids of all ages bring your parents and join the naturalist at the beach. There will be parachute and water games of all kinds. Supplies will be provided. See you there! **vc**

### Thursday, July 9th

2p.m. **Creature Feature** ~ Fur, feathers, fins or fangs? What are the special features of today's guest? Come and take a look. Learn about Patoka's natural history. **vc**

### Friday, July 10th

1-3p.m. **Beach Activities** ~ Kids of all ages bring your parents and join the naturalist at the beach. There will be parachute and water games of all kinds. Supplies will be provided. See you there! **vc**

2p.m. **Nature Flicks** ~ Cool down at the Visitor Center and enjoy a short nature program. See what is playing today! **vc**

### Saturday, July 11th

10a.m. **Quest** ~ Join in the fun for all ages! Explore Indiana's public properties, state parks and reservoirs. Earn points and enjoy fabulous premiums and prizes. **vc**

10a.m. **Dam Tower Tour** ~ Meet at the Visitor Center and travel by car caravan to the Patoka U. S. Army Corps of Engineers dam for a tower tour. Learn the fascinating facts of flood control and reservoir management.

2p.m. **Gardening for Wildlife** ~ Its just the right time to plan and maintain your gardens for butterflies, hummingbirds and other wildlife. Learn tips and tricks to water gardens and adding creative plantings of perennials and annuals. With trees and shrubs, enjoy all the added features to create a wildlife wonderland for you and your family. Ideas and exciting plans wait for you at Patoka! **vc**

## “Thunder Over Patoka” Fireworks

**Saturday, July 4th**

**at Dark (app. 10p.m. E.D.T.)**

**Patoka Lake Beach**



Join us for the 3rd Annual Fireworks display at Patoka Lake!  
Tune to WITZ radio for music to accompany the fireworks!  
Bring lawn chairs, blankets, insect repellent and refreshments!  
Enjoy the 4th of July fireworks extravaganza at Patoka!!

The regular gate fee will apply.

**COMING!**

**Smokey Bear's Birthday Party**

**August 8th**

**10a.m. to 1p.m.**

**Patoka Lake Visitor Center**

**Sunday, July 12th**

- 1p.m. **Snakes Alive** ~ With a surprise or two, let’s explore the sometimes misunderstood world of snakes. **vc**
- 2p.m. **Eagles Everywhere!** ~ With a close-up look at resident Bald Eagle C52, explore the world of eagles around Patoka Reservoir. Over 7,000 feathers on an adult bald eagle and other features allow eagles to take flight and capture food from the waters of Patoka. Discover fascinating facts about this species of raptor. **vc**

**Thursday, July 16th**

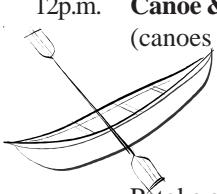
- 2p.m. **Creature Feature** ~ Fur, feathers, fins or fangs? What are the special features of today’s guest? Come and take a look. Learn about Patoka’s natural history. **vc**

**Friday, July 17th**

- 2p.m. **Nature Flicks** ~ Take a break from the heat and enjoy a short nature program. See what is playing today! **vc**

**Saturday, July 18th**

- 9a.m. **Naturalist on the Move** ~ Watch for the naturalist around the campgrounds and playgrounds. There will be a special guest appearance and some surprises coming your way!
- 10a.m. **Quest** ~ Join in the fun for all ages! Learn more about this new program which helps you explore Indiana’s public properties, state parks and reservoirs. Earn points and enjoy fabulous premiums and prizes. **vc**
- 12p.m. **Canoe & Kayak Adventure** ~ Bring your Kayak or canoe (canoes available while supplies last) and meet the naturalist at the Little Patoka Boat Ramp. You can also meet the naturalist at the Visitor Center at 11a.m. to car caravan to Little Patoka Boat Ramp. Enjoy the afternoon on the waters of Patoka as we check out a beautiful rock quarry and look for area wildlife. **vc**
- 1-3p.m. **Saturday Music Jam** ~ Join in an afternoon of music with the Gibson Family & Friends with vocal harmonies, dulcimers, guitars, fiddles, mandolins, banjos, music old and new. Bring a snack item to share. Celebrate the hot summer in the cool of the Visitor Center. **vc**



**Resident Raptors, Bald Eagle C52 and Redtail Hawk**

will be in the backyard viewing area of the Visitor Center from 10a.m to 3p.m. on the following days:

July 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19th

**Sunday, July 19th**

- 10a.m. **Narrows Hike** ~ With a short 1/4 mile walk, let’s explore the amazing world of yesteryear with stories from Mr. Fred Dillard’s memoirs. **vc**

**Thursday, July 23rd**

- 2p.m. **Creature Feature** ~ Fur, feathers, fins or fangs? What are the special features of today’s guest? Come and take a look. Learn about Patoka’s natural history. **vc**

**Friday, July 24th**

- 2p.m. **Nature Flicks** ~ Take a break from the heat and enjoy a short nature program. See what is playing today! **vc**

**Saturday, July 25th**

- 10a.m. **Quest** ~ Join in the fun for all ages! Learn more about this new program which helps you explore Indiana’s public properties, state parks and reservoirs. Earn points and enjoy fabulous premiums and prizes. **vc**
- 11a.m. **Hawks Up-Close** ~ Why are hawks called raptors or birds of prey? What are the special features or tools of the redtail hawk? Learn why she can not fly. **vc**
- 1p.m. **Tracks and Signs** ~ Who was here? We may not see the animal, but sometimes we can tell who was here by the signs they leave behind. Come and enjoy making plaster casts of animal tracks. **vc**
- 2p.m. **Garden Rock Loop Hike** ~ Bring family, friends, comfortable walking shoes and insect repellent for this half mile walk. We will take a look at the natural world around us and see what animals are out and about. **vc**



**Sunday, July 26th**

- 11a.m. **Little Tike Hike** ~ Bring your little ones between the ages of 3 to 6 to the modern campgrounds shelter house and watch as they become young explorers. **ccs**
- 1p.m. **Box Turtle** ~ Turtle in a box? A boxing turtle? Come and enjoy a close-up look at Patoka’s resident box turtle. Discover their habits and the laws that protect them. **vc**
- 2p.m. **Kids on the Lawn** ~ Kids of all ages, bring your parents to the Visitor Center lawn for parachute games, water activities and much more! **vc**

**Thursday, July 30th**

- 2p.m. **Creature Feature** ~ Fur, feathers, fins or fangs? What are the special features of today’s guest? Come and take a look. Learn about Patoka’s natural history. **vc**

**Friday, July 31st**

- 2p.m. **Nature Flicks** ~ Take a break from the heat and enjoy a short nature program. See what is playing today! **vc**
- 9p.m. **Night Hike** ~ Join the naturalist for a journey through the woods. We will explore our nighttime senses and how we differ from creatures of the night. Bring your family, friends and a good pair of walking shoes. Insect repellent is also suggested. Be prepared to enjoy the dark! We will meet at the shelter house just past the beach. (Signs will be posted) **b**



**Key for Program Locations:**

vc - Visitor Center

b - Beach

ccs - Modern Campground Shelterhouse